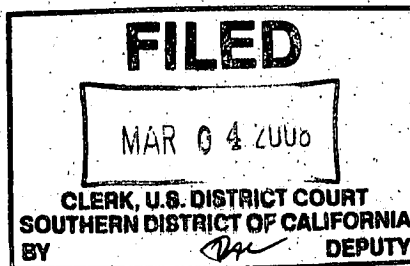


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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

'08 MJ 8198

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

Lacey Desiree ESPINOZA,

Defendant.

Magistrate Case No.

COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATION OF

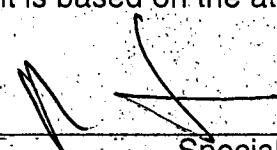
21 U.S.C. § 952 and 960

Importation of a Controlled Substance
(Felony)

The undersigned complainant being duly sworn states:

On or about March 3, 2008, within the Southern District of California, defendant Lacey Desiree ESPINOZA did knowingly and intentionally import approximately 57.10 kilograms (125.62 pounds) of marijuana a Schedule I Controlled Substance, into the United States from a place outside thereof, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952 and 960.

The complainant states that this complaint is based on the attached Statement of Facts incorporated herein by reference.


Special Agent
Immigration and Immigration and
Customs Enforcement

SWORN TO BEFORE ME AND SUBSCRIBED IN MY PRESENCE, THIS 4TH
DAY OF MARCH 2008.


PETER C. LEWIS
U. S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE

1 **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

2 **v.**

3 **Lacey Desiree ESPINOZA**

4 **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

5 This Statement of Facts is based on the reports, documents, and notes furnished to
6 Immigration and Customs Enforcement Special Agent Rafael Silva.
7

8 On March 3, 2008, at approximately 0117 hours, Lacey Desiree ESPINOZA entered the
9 United States at the Calexico, California, West Port of Entry. ESPINOZA was the driver and
10 sole occupant of a 1999 Chrysler 300.
11

12 ESPINOZA approached lane 4, manned by CBP Officer Sanchez. During routine border
13 inspection questioning, ESPINOZA gave a negative Customs declaration. CBP Officer Sanchez
14 asked ESPINOZA about the ownership of the vehicle. ESPINOZA stated the owner of the
15 vehicle was "Alonso." CBP Officer Sanchez asked ESPINOZA where she was coming from and
16 ESPINOZA stated she dropped her father off at the bus station in Mexicali, Baja California,
17 Mexico. CBP Officer Sanchez referred ESPINOZA and the vehicle to the secondary lot for
18 further inspection.
19
20

21 In Secondary inspection, CBP Canine Enforcement Officer Parish was conducting a lot
22 sweep with his assigned dog, when the dog alerted to the vehicle. CBP Officer Thomas then
23 took a negative Customs declaration and asked ESPINOZA if the vehicle belonged to her.
24 ESPINOZA stated the vehicle belonged to her stepfather and the purpose of her trip was to take
25 her stepfather to the bus station in Mexicali. During his inspection CBP Officer Thomas found
26 packages concealed in the spare tire well.
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1 A subsequent inspection of the vehicle revealed twenty-five (25) packages concealed
2 inside the spare tire well of the vehicle. CBP Officer Thomas probed one of the packages and a
3 sample of a green leafy substance was obtained, which field tested positive for marijuana. The 25
4 packages had a combined weight of approximately 57.10 kilograms (125.62 pounds) of
5 marijuana.
6

7 ESPINOZA was placed under arrest and advised of her rights per Miranda, which she
8 acknowledged and waived, agreeing to answer questions. ESPINOZA stated to Special Agent
9 Silva she did not know the vehicle contained drugs. ESPINOZA stated she lives in Bakersfield,
10 California. ESPINOZA stated the vehicle belonged to a person she did not know. ESPINOZA
11 also said the purpose of her trip to Mexico was to give a ride to this unknown person from
12 Bakersfield to a bus station in Mexicali.
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